

What is claimed is:

1. A wall rack assembly comprising:

5 a shelf assembly for selectively receiving a plurality of network interface units;

at least two customer interface module connectors operatively connected to said shelf assembly; and

10 a customer interface module selectively connectable to either one of said at least two customer interface module connectors.

2. The assembly of Claim 1, further comprising a cover for said shelf assembly.

15 3. The assembly of Claim 2, wherein said cover includes side openings for allowing placement of said cover around said customer interface module.

20 *Inspt* 4. An improved shelf assembly for telecommunications network interface units, said shelf assembly including a printed circuit board for interconnecting customer lines with network service provider lines through said network interface units, said customer lines being connected to a customer interface module which is operatively connected to said printed circuit board, said network 25 service provider lines being connected to said printed circuit board via connectors provided on said printed circuit board, said improvement comprising:

at least two customer interface module connectors provided on said printed circuit board, said customer interface module being selectively connected to either of said at least two customer interface modules to afford flexibility in mounting said shelf assembly.

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5. The improved shelf assembly of Claim 4, further comprising a cover for said shelf assembly, said cover having at least two customer interface module receiving openings to allow said cover to be positioned over said shelf assembly when said customer interface unit is connected to either of said at least two customer interface module connectors.

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6. A shelf assembly for receiving a plurality of telecommunications network interface units and for interconnecting customer lines with network service provider lines, said shelf assembly comprising:

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a printed circuit board;

a plurality of network interface unit connectors on said printed circuit board for receiving said network interface units; and

at least two customer interface module connectors for selectively and independently receiving a customer interface module.

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7. The shelf assembly of Claim 6, wherein said shelf assembly further includes a top flange, a bottom flange, a first side flange and a second side flange, said top, bottom, first and

second side flanges being positioned generally perpendicular to said printed circuit board and forming a housing area for said network interface units.

5        8. The shelf assembly of Claim 7, wherein said at least two customer interface module connectors include a first customer interface module connector positioned along said first side flange and a second customer interface module connector positioned along said second side flange.

10       9. The shelf assembly of Claim 8, wherein said customer interface module includes at least one customer line connector, said customer lines being connected to said at least one customer line connector in a direction parallel to said printed circuit board.

15       10. The shelf assembly of Claim 7, wherein said printed circuit board includes at least one network service provider line connector, said network service provider lines being connected to said at least one network service provider line connector in a direction perpendicular to said printed circuit board.

20       11. The shelf assembly of Claim 10, wherein said at least one network service provider line connector is located above said top flange.

25       12. The shelf assembly of Claim 7, further comprising a cover for selectively enclosing said printed circuit board, said top

flange, said bottom flange, said first side flange and said second side flange.

13. The shelf assembly of Claim 12, wherein said cover 5 includes at least two cut out portions to allow clearance of said customer interface module.

14. The shelf assembly of Claim 12, wherein said shelf assembly is removably mounted to a back mounting plate.

10 15. The shelf assembly of Claim 14, wherein said back mounting plate includes cover locking slots, and said cover includes locking tabs which selectively engage said cover locking slots to secure said cover over said shelf assembly.

16. The shelf assembly of Claim 11, wherein said first side flange and said second side flange extend beyond said top flange and said bottom flange, said shelf assembly further comprising a cover, said cover and said top and bottom flanges including openings for allowing said network service provider lines to pass therethrough.

20 25. A wall rack assembly for selectively receiving and housing a plurality of network interface units and for interconnecting customer lines with network service provider lines; said assembly providing flexibility in mounting the assembly in the presence of an obstruction and comprising:

a shelf assembly having a first customer interface module connector and a second customer interface module connector; and

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a customer interface module selectively and removably connectable to said first customer interface module connector and said second customer interface module, said customer interface module being connected to said first customer interface module connector when said second customer interface module connector is proximate said obstruction and said customer interface module being connected to said second customer interface module connector when said first customer interface module connector is proximate said obstruction.

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18. The wall rack assembly of Claim 17, further including a cover for said shelf assembly, said cover selectively positionable over and removable outwardly away from said shelf assembly so as to be unhindered by said obstruction.

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*INSR* 19. A method of mounting a wall telecommunications rack assembly in a difficult to access location, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a shelf assembly having at least a first customer interface module connector and a second customer interface module connector;

providing a customer interface module selectively and removably attachable to said shelf assembly; and

selectively attaching said customer interface unit to one of said first customer interface module connector and said second customer interface module connector.